#### HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at 7.00pm in The Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre, High Street, Haverhill, CB9 8AR

Present: Chair: Town Councillor: R André

Town Councillors: M Byrne, P Firman, P French,

E Goody, P Hanlon, M Martin, B McLatchy, D Roach, B Robbins,

and C Turner

Also present: 15 members of the public

#### **MINUTES**

Councillors welcomed Paul Firman as the recently elected Town Councillor for the East Ward. Councillor Firman signed the acceptance of office declaration and joined the assembled councillors.

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Carr, Russo, Samuels, G Stroud and J Stroud.

Cllr McLatchy explained that Cllr Russo's attendance had been affected by military duties, which clashed with Council meetings as both tended to be on a Tuesday. She proposed that Cllr Russo's apologies be accepted pending the next review of Standing Orders, which would consider changing the day on which meetings are held.

The Town Council approved this proposal.

#### 2. Declaration of Interests

Cllr André declared an interest in item 8 on the agenda as a member of the steering group that had been developing proposals to improve the credit union presence in Haverhill. The Clerk advised that Cllr André could speak as a member of the public during the Public Forum but would need to withdraw for the duration of item 8.

3. To Confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013 were agreed.

# 4. <u>To deal with any urgent matters arising from the minutes not covered by this agenda</u>

The Town Clerk reported that the briefing on filming of Council meetings had been circulated to councillors.

#### 5. Police Report

No representative of Suffolk Police attended to provide a report.

6. <u>Haverhill Half Marathon (St Nicholas Hospice Care)</u>
Jack Tappin delivered the presentation appended to these minutes on a



ACTION

proposed half marathon and 10km race for Haverhill, and made a request for funding support of £500.

Jordan Hughes of St Nicholas Hospice Care added that the cost of St John Ambulance would be £100 lower as they were booked through the Hospice Charity. He offered his thanks to Jack for his work, and to Town Councillors for their support to date.

With the agreement of Town Councillors, John Burns was invited to address the meeting. He thanked Jack for the presentation, and said that whilst perhaps he was not the most obvious person to comment on something to do with fitness, he did have some funds available that could be used as commercial sponsorship, perhaps enhanced via the use of gift aid, if the Town Council members would prefer rather than granting the same amount out of public funds.

Town Councillors commented and questioned as follows:

- Whether the costs included public liability insurance. Jack said they did, through the race licence and St Nicholas Hospice Care
- Whether there would be first aiders on the route of the race. Jack said that there would, made up of St John Ambulance and many trained race marshals.

Town Councillors agreed a proposal to make a contribution of £500 towards the event.

The Mayor, with the agreement of the Council, adjourned the meeting at 7.28pm for the public forum.

Councillor Flood said that the rules made his objection to the wind turbine planning application extremely difficult. Development Control Committee had tried to reject the application but were told they were not allowed to. Planning officers had told the committee that there was no substantial reason to object to the application when in fact there was. It did not meet local and national guidelines. It was coming back to the next Development Control meeting, and in the meantime Cllr Flood was in extensive email exchange with Planning Officers. He would email his findings. This week a study had said that houses would lose 11% of their value within 2.5km of a turbine. Cllr Flood said that he was desperate for public support. He said also that the MP had now supported the objection to the application after UKIP's recent election victory. He urged all to email the MP.

Cllr André said that planning officers had explained to the Town Council that the risk needed to be assessed. They would advise Development Control Committee of this for a final decision. It was quite proper in his view.

Cllr Byrne said that she agreed with Cllr André's interpretation. She had been told that a substantial case needed to be made. Officers would need to tell the Committee how objections would ensure that no appeal was possible, enabling the Committee to reject the application regardless. She had received lots of emails from residents. One letter supporting the application was from a tenant of the applicant. The opposition was on grounds of policy.

Cllr Turner said that he supported Cllr Byrne. Development Control Committee was looking at the objection to structure it to avoid appeal and the costs of an appeal. They were doing their job properly and thoroughly and carefully.

Cllr Brown said that he had attended a meeting of the Clinical Commissioning Group and reported that a brochure was to go to every house in Haverhill on local health services. Local concerns about ambulance services had been raised at the meeting and statistics would be provided. The CCG was also looking at using the Out of Hours services as a pilot for a 24 / 7 surgery. He had asked for Haverhill to be a HealthWatch hub. The Cabinet member Alan Murray was due to come to Haverhill to speak.

Bill Austin said that the pot holes in Swan Lane were now 4" deep and were in danger of creating an accident. Cllr Byrne said that she had also noticed this when checking concerns of the traffic order. She had also noticed problems in Mill Road Helions Park Avenue and Recreation Road. It was an issue for our Suffolk County Councillors to deal with.

Cllr Martin said she had spoken to Cllr Brown months ago about Mill Road. There had been lots of rhetoric but no improvements in any of these roads. It would be more of a problem when the experimental traffic order was in place. It was a danger to pedestrians. She said that Suffolk County Councillors must get their finger out.

Cllr Brown said he had raised the experimental traffic order and the pot holes with the County Council. They kept saying they would deal with them but hadn't.

Cllr Byrne said that a damaged car had not been able to claim from SCC because works to repair a pot hole had already been scheduled.

Cllr French said that it had been a problem when he was a Suffolk County Councillor. Repairs had been promised but they were always inadequate and collapsed very quickly.

The Clerk to Kedington parish Council said that the Cllr Brown had made vast inroads into highways and other problems in Kedington. She said that the Council should invite Cllr Newman to answer their questions.

Gordon Cox said that he was surprised that the item on video recording had been deferred at the previous Council meeting. He said that if the Council was quorate there was no reason not to make a decision. He said that there had not been 100% attendance at the Council meeting since 2009. He said that the Council should perhaps consider a change in the week day of their meetings to improve attendance. He said that the Council should not just defer the item, and that members should attend.

Cllr André responded that attendance was so significantly low at the last meeting that he had proposed deferral and spoke subsequently to the proposer. He said that there was better attendance at this meeting. He also said that some Councillors would always be absent from meetings, and that many of these Councillors worked hard nevertheless.

Cllr Turner said that the issue was the same as the grant application that had been considered earlier. Sometimes more councillors would need to be involved. He said that Council meetings had not been inquorate since he

could remember.

John Burns said that he did not want to pre-empt Councillor Robbins' proposal at item 9, but could fully support the efforts being made to allow video recordings at town council meetings. He believed that in this age of social media that it would be seen as a large step towards localism and reaching out to the public at large. He said that at a recent SNT meeting recordings had shown this to be the case.

Mr Burns also asked about the head sculpture. He said that whilst he appreciated that this was not strictly anything to do with the Town Council as it came under the auspices Of HAWP, he wondered if anyone had an update on the issue.

The Clerk advised that the last HAWP meeting had been cancelled, and that the next meeting was in 2 months' time. He said that he had heard nothing about progress towards the installation of the sculpture.

Cllr Hanlon said that the head sculpture was complete and that he thought it would be on the Market Square.

Cllr Byrne said that she was a member of HAWP and was concerned that its meeting had been cancelled given that the number of issues for the town at present including the head sculpture. She said that the result was no information for the community and she would be commenting strongly on the matter.

Cllr André spoke in respect of item 8 on the agenda, he summarised a letter to councillors (appended to these minutes) on the issue of an improved credit union facility for Haverhill. He stressed the importance of the credit union to the community. He added that it encouraged savings and that loan rates were affordable.

Cllr Turner asked whether a financial risk assessment had been undertaken. Cllr André responded that the Ipswich and Suffolk Credit Union had its own risk assessment and that Haverhill Town Council would not be lending money but supporting the project.

There being no further matters raised by the public, the Mayor resumed the meeting with the agreement of the Council at 7.57pm.

#### 7. Adoption of Committee Reports

#### Finance Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

#### Appeals Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Appeals Committee meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2013.

#### Planning Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

#### Leisure & Community Committee

The Council moved the adoption of the minutes of the Leisure & Community Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014.

#### 8. <u>Credit Union Funding</u>

Cllr Byrne offered her thanks to Cllr André for his report and explanation during the Public Forum. She said the aim was to ensure reputable borrowing and lending.

Cllr Hanlon said he wanted to emphasise what Cllr André had said and that this would encourage savings as well providing borrowing.

Cllr Martin asked whether Credit Union members had to have savings before they could borrow. Cllr Byrne said she believed that this was a requirement.

Cllr Turner asked whether the Clerk could split the spending between this year and next year if the project were supported by the Town Council. The Clerk responded that this could be done if requested and that the funding was available.

Cllr Roach asked how many would be saving with the Credit Union. Cllr Byrne said she had no idea, but would think it would be popular. She said that the REACH Charity was involved and may have a good idea of the number who might be members of the Credit Union.

Cllr McLatchy said that shop premises were expensive and asked who would provide them. The Clerk advised that premises were already available in the form of the Havebury Housing offices as set out in Cllr André's submission.

Cllr Byrne said the organiser for the proposed project would be paid the living wage.

Cllr Hanlon said that advertising was important.

Cllr Goody proposed a contribution of  $\mathfrak{L}3,000$  in support of the project. This proposal was agreed by Town Councillors.

#### 9. Video Recording of Council and Committee Meetings

Cllr Robbins presented the proposal to film council meetings and said that this would make the meetings more open, more democratic and would involve more people. He said that the reasons were shown in the supporting papers that had been circulated.

Cllr Andre said that in June 2013 48 members of the public had attended the SNT meeting. In September 44 had attended. In December 35 had attended and this showed the impact of introducing cameras at meetings. He said that town Council meetings were open to the public. Video streaming was open to abuse and the proposal was from a group that had recently abused residents and Councillors on an on-line message board. Cllrs, residents and staff had asked for these comments to be removed. He said that safe guards would be needed to avoid the risk of abuse.

Cllr Byrne said that there had been a lot of debate on this issue. She

felt it would discourage people from speaking but most importantly that if filming were to be allowed it would be for the Town Council to decide how, with no political affiliations. She said she had no problem with filming the meetings in principle, but said that when she had read some on-line allegations it left her with some concerns. She felt that the issue should not be decided until the Council was told it would have to film meetings. She said that there had been too much political abuse and that was meant that she would be unable to support the proposal. She was sad that this was the case.

Cllr McLatchy read a statement opposing the introduction of filmin of meetings at this time.

Cllr Robbins said that he disagreed that it would be used for political reasons. He said that the recent SALC course he had attended had encouraged filming. He also said that the SNT meeting had been very successful. He said that this should not be a political matter but it was.

Cllr Roach said that filming would be acceptable if Council controlled, but otherwise it was open to abuse. He said that people could come to meetings. The SNT filming was not an indicator of success as it had attracted very few viewings.

Cllr Turner said that there was a reason in standing orders why filming was not allowed. These had been discussed previously during the debate. It was a one way medium, and he would rather it was used to demonstrate the Council's successes such as the fireworks and other events. He said that he had no problem with more on-line presence in respect of the Council's activities and events, but that people should come to council meetings. If contentious issues were discussed people would come anyway.

Cllr French said that if this evenings meeting had been filmed, it would have restricted public attendance through a lack of room. He said that the County Council allowed filming but had larger premises and their own equipment. Nevertheless there had been problems with sound and concerns with the cost to the taxpayer. He felt that filming would deter public attendance at meetings. He felt that he would prefer to see people in attendance and that in any case filming was not needed at this level of government. He said that the Council should not allow filming at meetings until told to do so by Government.

Cllr Hanlon he agreed with the previous comments. He was concerned that it would put people off becoming councillors.

Cllr Byrne said that Cllr Robbins had said that the Town Council was political. She said that she would like him to explain as there had been no sign of politics in recent discussions.

Cllr Robbins said that doing what you have always done gets what you have always had. Refusal of the proposal would be short sighted.

The proposal to allow filming of Town Council meetings was rejected.

#### 10. Haverhill Town Clock

The Clerk advised councillors that the design of the clock was being finalised by a group led by Neil Williams at Samuel Ward Academy. It was hope that the clock might be available for installation by mid-March. Work was ongoing to analyse the proposed site in Jubilee Walk and to obtain the necessary approvals.

Cllr McLatchy said that she had received a complaint about the lack of maintenance work at the nearby site of the 'cat' sculpture and asked whether maintenance would be incorporated into this project. The Clerk advised that maintenance would be the responsibility of the Town Council, whereas the 'cat' came under the Borough Council.

#### 11. <u>Meeting Dates 2014/15</u>

Councillors agreed the meeting dates appended to these minutes.

#### 12. Review of Risks

Councillors considered a review of risks presented by the Town Clerk. No new or increased risks had been identified since the previous review, and no associated measures had been proposed.

Councillors accepted the review and its findings.

#### 13. Review of Audit Arrangements

The Town Clerk presented a paper on audit and internal control, which identified current arrangements and recommended that these be retained until the next annual review.

Councillors approved the recommendation that current audit arrangements be retained until the next annual review.

#### 14. <u>To authorise payments.</u>

The Council authorised the following cheque lists:-

Date	Cheque Numbers	Value
10.12.13	009321 - 009341	£23,102.80
17.12.13	009342 - 009367	£13,878.33
07.01.14	009638 - 009391	£49,536.07
14.01.14	009392 - 009408	£56,933.63

#### 15. <u>To receive urgent correspondence</u>

No urgent correspondence was tabled.

At 8.47pm, in accordance with the Provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press were excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Standing orders were suspended to allow time for the remainder of the meeting's business to be completed.

#### 16. Staffing Matters

Councillors agreed the recruitment of a Duty Manager at 24 hours per

week to fill the existing full-time vacancy.

Councillors further agreed that the Town Clerk should, in consultation with the Chair of Personnel Committee, agree the recruitment arrangements for the Town Clerk vacancy.

#### 15. Closure

The meeting was closed at 9.13pm.

FULL1314

# HaverHalf and Haver10

## What is it?

- A half marathon (13.1 miles) and 10k (6.2 miles) race
- To be held in Haverhill on May 11
- Both events start around 9.30am on the Recreation Ground
- The races are raising money for St Nicholas Hospice Care
- If it proves successful it will become an annual event
- The routes take in Haverhill town centre, the railway line, Chalkstone estate and Strumer, while HaverHalf also goes out to Withersfield and Great Wratting
- · Will be the first half marathon in Haverhill
- Roads are closed at the beginning (for around half an hour) to ensure an enjoyable and safe running experience without disrupting businesses
- A chance to have a flagship athletics event in the town

# The route

#### HaverHalf

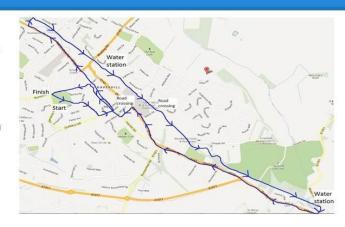
- · Starts on the rec
- Town Centre
- Withersfield
- Great Wratting
- Back to town
- Railway line
- Sturmer
- Chalkstone
- · Finish on rec



### The route

#### Haver10

- Starts on rec
- Town centre
- Railway line
- Sturmer
- Ehringshausen Way
- Finish at rec



# **Supporters**

- · Sanofi sponsor
- . Suffolk County Councillors all three from Haverhill providing cash
- Castle Manor Academy schoolchildren will help to officiate with timing, registration, some marshalling on footpaths, and water stations.
- Stylize Design Graphic providing the necessary signage (mile markers, directions, beware runners, etc)
- . Greenair Cars providing a support car and water
- · Perform Sports Therapy sports massages for runners after the race
- Haverhill Running Club chairman is race adjudicator, runners will likely help as marshals
- Haverhill Town Pastors will provide marshals
- . Scouts and Guides helping where possible, such as water stations

# **Community involvement**

- People invited to either run, help as volunteers or cheer on the runners
- Will be stalls on the rec from sponsors and supporters to create a friendly atmosphere for those supporting the runners
- · Haverhill Running Club will be involved with marshals and pace setters
- Haverhill Town Pastors will help marshal, Haverhill Scouts and Guides have been approached and churches will be
- · Hospice volunteers will be involved
- Castle Manor will provide aforementioned support and students are competing to design an official logo for the event

# Logistics

- Parking will be at the library and Cleale's car park. Jubilee Square, Meadows and leisure centre also. There will be plenty of free car parking within walking distance.
   All entrants are advised where to park in their welcome e-mail and asked not to park in residential streets. Marshals will be at car parks.
- There will be portaloos as well as toilets on the rec and at the Burton Centre, which will be open as a base for changing and bag drop.
- · Registration and the start/finish will be on the rec.
- Greenair Cars will help to collect signage and take down water tables, and also take marshals to the furthest posts if needed.
- This needs to be a successful event for it to continue in the future.
- Entry is online through Entrycentral.com/HaverHalf and Runbritain.com/races (both deduct 60p per entry), also paper forms for people to apply

# **Numbers and targets**

- I am aiming to attract the ambitious number of 500 runners to put this into perspective Stowmarket, which is not a well
  promoted half marathon and is not in Stowmarket (it is in Buxhall, down country roads) but is well established attracts 200.
  Cambridge attracted 3,000 for its inaugural race.
- Half marathon will appeal to experienced runners from far afield, 10k will attract people looking to make the step up from 5k such as the Race For Life.
- I aim to raise an again ambitious amount of £10,000
- Entry costs £16 for HaverHalf (£14 club runners) and £12 for Haver10 (£10 club runners).
- Entry is free for people raising £100.
- The average entry price will thus be £13 if we get 350 runners with 300 paying the minimum entry fee (£5,200) and 50 raising the £100 for free entry (£5,000) then the event will have raised £10,000.
- This is just entry fees and sponsorship T shirt orders, tea and cake sold on the day and £5 from each sports massage will all help to raise money.

•	So far HaverHalf	XX	Men	XX	Women	XX	From Haverhill xx
	Haver10	xx	Men	XX	Women	xx	From Haverhill xx
	Both	XX	Men	XX	Women	XX	From Haverhill xx

# **Costs & Funding**

#### **Outgoings**

TOTAL

•	Traffic management for closed roads (from GSL Dardan)	£	609
•	Road closure order	£	40
•	St John Ambulance cover	£	547.20
•	Hire of recreation ground	£	200
•	Portaloo hire (for 8 - £620 for 4)	£	720
•	UK Athletics race licence (depends on number of entries)	£	200
•	Course measurement	£	100
•	Medals and trophies (based on 500)	£	500
•	Food	£	200
٠	Waste collection	£	150
•	Promotion	£	150

£3,416.20

# **Costs & Funding**

#### Income

TOTAL

Sanofi £1,325
 Cllr Anne Gower, Cllr Tony Brown
 Cllr Julian Flood (pledged) - £350 each £1,050
 Tesco voucher £ 50
 ONE Haverhill grant (applied for) £ 500
 Haverhill Town Council (applied for) £ 500

£3,425

FULL1314

RJFA

42 Elmhurst Close Haverhill Suffolk CB9 8EO

Tel: 01440 763 715 Mob; 07767 267 579 Email: rjfandre@yahoo.com IM: rjfandre@hotmail.com

Haverhill Town Councillors

Dear Councillor,

Haverhill promotion of Credit Union Facilities in the High Street

You will recall, from our recent discussions, that I am working with a number of others in Haverhill to address Child Poverty in our community. One strand of our activity is to promote the existing Credit Union service, provided by Ipswich & Suffolk Credit Union, to encourage modest saving and to divert families using high interest 'payday' and 'doorstep' borrowing into affordable and sustainable debt management.

Whilst the recent service, provided for a few hours per week by the CAB and with limited access at the Arts Centre, had the capacity to offer modest saving and credit services, access was severely limited and the absence of a High Street presence marginalised the offer. That provision ceased late last year.

A steering group has been established, including Havebury Housing, a volunteer from ISCU, representation from the CAB and representation from REACH. Havebury are offering space at their High Street Offices for a regular presence and the steering group consider that we can progressively build the presence to establish a High Street service offering easy access to our community.

The current project seeks to employ an organiser for one year to recruit and train volunteers, to establish the ISCU presence and to promote modest saving and credit within the community.

#### The project:

- · Is for one year only volunteers will ensure the sustainability of the service
- Whilst initially based in Havebury premises, may pursue other High Street locations as appropriate
- Is to be led by a steering group comprising a Councillor, an experienced ISCU volunteer, representatives of the CAB as the existing provider, representatives of REACH with extensive experience in debt management and representatives of Havebury with extensive experience in managing social housing in our community.
- Will be monitored by the steering group to ensure that take up of saving and credit facilities
  are extended and that users are represented in due course.



42 Elmhurst Close Haverhill Suffolk CB9 8EQ

Tel: 01440 763 715 Mob; 07767 267 579 Email: rjfandre@yahoo.com IM: rjfandre@hotmail.com

In addition to this funding request further funding is being sought from:

County Councillors Locality Budgets ISCU match funding

I have attached an outline budget plan and I trust this will be sufficient to enable you to consider a contribution of £3,000 from Town Council funds to support this important initiative.

Thank you for your support in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further details.

Roger JF André For the Steering Group

Child Poverty

				£ 6,942.21			<u> </u>	see notes	see notes	<b>—</b> 1	£ 670.00			£ 7,500.00	£ 112.21
		Ongoing	No		Ongoing	S	0	0	S	0		Committed	In Progress Application Submitted Application Submitted Application Submitted		Funding Req'd
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nion Pro		On Cost	£ 743.81		Add Cost										
Strand 3 : Credit Union Promotion		Period Cost	£ 6,198.40		Period Cost	£ 120.00	£ 300.00	- J	- <del>J</del>	£ 250.00		Period Value	£ 3,000.00 £ 1,500.00 £ 1,500.00 £ 1,500.00		
and 3 :		Period	52 £		Period	12	1	1	12	1					
Str		Weekly Cost	£ 119.20												
		Cost ph	£ 7.45		Unit Cost	£ 10.00	£ 300.00	0 £ 250.00	£ 20.00	£ 250.00					
_	_	Hours pw	16		Number Unit Cost	1	1	0	0	1	_	_			
Costs Summary	Staffing	Post	Organiser	Other	ltem	Telephone	Laptop	Office Furniture	Stationery	Display and Adv	Funding Summary	Source	HTC SCC Cllr Locality 1 SCC Cllr Locality 2 SCC Cllr Locality 3		

Status: Final Draft - Agreed with SG Chair ISCU

HAVERHILL TOWN COUNCIL

# MEETING DATES February 2014 to May 2015 - (Version: 08.01.14)

Committee	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2014	May 2014	June 2014	July Aug 2014 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Oct Nov Dec 2014 2014 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar Apr 2015 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015
Planning	4		_	13	က	-	12	0	21	11	2	9	3	3	21	12
			22			22		30			23			31		
Leisure &		7		9		œ		16		18		20		10		2
Community																
Personnel					10											
Finance	11		œ		17			23		4		13			7	
Appeals					10	1			Α							
Full	18	25	59	27	24	29		23	28	25	16	27	24	24	28	26
Council																
Town				27	1	3	7									26
Meeting			U					7		- 2						
Arts Centre				59						27	i e			8		
Trustees										ı						

All meetings are held at The Arts Centre, High Street, unless otherwise notified.

Committee meetings commence at 7.00 p.m.

Full Council meetings commence at 7.00 p.m. Annual General Meeting commences at 7.00 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public, and the public may raise matters of concern to the Town Council at the meetings.

The Town Meeting is organised by the Town Council on behalf of the public.

All Agendas are displayed on the Noticeboard in the High Street and on the Town Council website (<a href="http://www.haverhill-tc.gov.uk">http://www.haverhill-tc.gov.uk</a>)

All Minutes are displayed on the Town Council website